



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY  
LANSING

ROBERT J. KLEINE  
STATE TREASURER

**DATE:** October 25, 2007  
**TO:** Assessors and Equalization Directors  
**FROM:** State Tax Commission  
**SUBJECT:** Poverty Exemptions

This is to notify all Assessor and Equalization Directors that the State Tax Commission intends to undertake a statewide review of poverty exemptions over the next year. Assessors are asked to review the policies adopted by their local units to ensure that they meet the requirements of MCL 211.7u. Assessors are reminded that local governing bodies are required to set income levels for their poverty exemption guidelines and those income levels **shall not be set lower** by a city or township than the federal poverty guidelines updated annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (provided annually by the STC in the Bulletin on procedural changes). Also please note, that poverty exemption guidelines established by the governing body of the local assessing unit shall include an asset level test.

The Commission is asking all Assessors to remind their Boards of Review of the requirements for granting poverty exemptions. The Commission is asking assessors to inform the Commission if they believe their Board of Review is inappropriately granting poverty exemptions. Thank you for your cooperation.